

<p align="center">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	Application Number	10/729,748
	Filing Date	December 5, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Naoki Shimoyama
	Group Art Unit	1762
	Examiner Name	Bashore, Alain L.
	Attorney Docket Number	VTN0601DIV

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14665 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on

iii. ☐ Other

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees** - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750.


i. ☒ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c)

ii. ☐ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (print/type)	Karen A. Harding	Registration No.	33,967
Signature		Date	10/31/07
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via The Office electronic filing system in accordance with 37 CFR 1.6(a)(4) on: October 31, 2007			
Name (print/type)	Linda Shutterly	Date	10/31/2007
Signature	